

Preparing your students for U.S. University Admissions & Scholarship Opportunities

Presented by

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How it Works

- College, School, University: What's the difference?
- Private vs. public/state institutions:
 Is one better than the other?
- U.S. academic year:Semesters, quarters, trimesters
- Deadlines:
 - Rolling, early decision, regular deadlines
- Where do applications go?Centralized vs. decentralized offices
- Who evaluates applications?



Components of a Successful Application Dossier

- Application form:
 - Common Application or application from the institution?
- Application fee
- Test scores (i.e. TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, ACT)
- Academic credentials
 - 9th-12th grade transcripts, diplomas, leaving or national exam results/certificates
- Secondary school profile and grading key



The Common Application

- 346 member colleges
- Following documents may be submitted online:
 - -Secondary School Report (SSR) including school profile and transcript
 - -Midyear Report (MYR)
 - -Final Report (FYR)
 - -Homeschool Supplement to the SSR
 - -International Supplement to the SRR
 - -Teacher Evaluation (TE)
- Some colleges require a supplement

Visit www.commonapp.org for more information



Components of a Successful Application Dossier (cont'd...)

- Recommendations
- Personal Statement/Essay
- Proof of Financial Resources*
- Fall and Spring Deadlines
- Interviews

^{*}for non-US citizens or Permanent Residents



Tips

- Research carefully
- Plan ahead
- Follow instructions and timelines
- Be honest, precise, concise
- Submit complete application packet
- Understand confidentiality and privacy





Financial Assistance, Merit Awards & Scholarships

- What's the difference? (merit, need based, or both)
- Do all institutions offer scholarships to international students?
- Do all international students get scholarships to study in the U.S.?
- Over 4,000 choices for study: Public/state and private institutions, 2-year and 4-year schools, and more



Considering Expenses For Study in the U.S. per Academic Year (August-May: Nine Months)

- Tuition
- Fees
- Living expenses (room and board)
- Books
- Insurance
- Personal expenses

- Transportation (to and from home country to U.S., and within the U.S.)
- Holiday and summer extras
- Totals may range from \$28,000-\$58,000/academic year, subject to 5%-6% annual increase





A Word about Student Visas

- Why a student visa?
- Proving financial ability to study in U.S.: What if I'm applying for scholarships or merit awards?
- Types of visas: F-1 student visa and J-1 exchange visitor visa
- Can students work on a student visa? (On or off campus, during summer, after successful completion of study?)
- Yes, your student CAN get a student visa, if they follow the rules!





How to Finance a U.S. Post-Secondary Education

- U.S. schools: Full or partial scholarship opportunities (who, what, where, if)
- Sports scholarships: NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) regulations (<u>www.NCAA.org</u>)
- Loans: U.S. banks or organizations (see <u>www.globalscl.com</u>), home country local banks
- International organizations i.e. NGO's AMIDEAST Diana Kamal Scholarships (see <u>www.amideast.org</u>), IIE's StudyAmerica Awards (see <u>www.iie.org</u>)
- Contact the US Embassy, your government's Ministry of Education, or visit <u>www.educationUSA.state.gov</u> for information



Creative or "In-kind" Funding Opportunities

- Live with family or friends nearby the campus
- Become a dormitory 'resident aide/assistant' after 2-3 years on campus
- Work on campus–20 hours a week can cover small personal expenses
- Start at a U.S. two-year institution (community college) and then transfer to a four-year university



Creative or "In-Kind" Funding Opportunities (cont'd...)

- Start at a home-country university and transfer to the U.S. after one or two years
- Find schools with accelerated programs (i.e. 5-year BA/MA programs, BA within 3- 3 ½ years)
- Study through summer to finish early- save on living expenses
- Take advantage of OPT (Optional Practical Training) right after graduation





U.S. Higher Education-an Investment for Your Student's Future!

U.S. institutions offer a unique blend of:

- Diversity, flexibility, choice and value
- Quality and excellence or programs, research facilities
- Critical thinking and personal growth
- Access to faculty and administrators
- Campus life, support services for international students, life experiences and worldwide networks for the future
- Global acceptability by employers worldwide





Tips for Your Students

- Follow deadlines and instructions carefully
- Calculate expenses and options realistically
- Remember: Name of school, location, or high cost does not always guarantee quality
- Investigate all resources



More Tips for Your Students

- Remember: For most schools in the U.S., students must show proof of financial resources in advance even if applying for scholarships
- Think creatively
- Work closely with your EducationUSA advising office (AMIDEAST, Fulbright, bi-national centers, see www.educationusa.state.gov/centers)





Useful Websites for International Students and Counselors

- www.internationalstudent.net
- www.bibl.uszeged.hu/oseas/aid.html
- www.iefa.org
- www.iie.org
- www.nafsa.org

- www.iefc.com
- www.fastweb.com
- www.ciee.org/study.aspx
- www.edupass.com
- www.educationusa.state.gov
- www.amideast.org



Sports Scholarships

- www.ncaa.org
- www.naia.org
- www.njcaa.org
- www.collegesportsscholarships.com



Questions?

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Thank you & Good Luck!

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